



Mountain View Cemetery

Shrewsbury, Massachusetts

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The Mountain View Cemetery is owned and operated by the Town of Shrewsbury under the supervision of the Park and Cemetery Commission (hereinafter referred to as "Commission"). Lots are conveyed by special deed for burial purposes only, and are subject to the following rules and regulations.

GENERAL

Only a resident of the Town of Shrewsbury may purchase a lot or lots in this cemetery. Said resident may, with Commission approval, purchase a grave for a father, mother, son or daughter who is a non-resident.

A lot purchased by a Shrewsbury resident for the exclusive use of non-resident parent(s) or child(ren) will be charged the non-resident rate for the lot. A resident who incorporates a grave or graves for non-resident parent(s) or child(ren) into his or her own family lot will be charged the resident lot sale rate.

Any change in ownership or transfer of rights to a lot or lots may be only through the Cemetery Commission. The Commission reserves the sole and exclusive authority over use and/ or exchange of lots and graves. In the event that circumstances require a credit or refund, such credit or

refund shall not exceed the actual amount or amounts paid for the lot or lots.

LOT PURCHASES ARE LIMITED TO ONE PER HOUSEHOLD. WHEN A LOT IS PURCHASED, A GRAVE OR GRAVES MUST BE RESERVED FOR THE LOT OWNER AND SPOUSE. A LOT OWNER MAY NOT PURCHASE ADDITIONAL GRAVES UNTIL HIS/HER PRESENT LOT IS FULL, AND THEN ONLY WITH COMMISSION APPROVAL. LOT OWNERS SHALL ADVISE THE CEMETERY OF ANY CHANGE IN NAME AND/OR ADDRESS OF THE FAMILY MEMBER RESPONSIBLE FOR THE LOT.

A lot purchase is not final until confirmed and approved by the Town of Shrewsbury Parks and Cemetery Commission. Any purchase request may, upon review by the Commission, be denied, modified or rescinded by the Commission, whether or not there has been an interment in the lot in question.

The use of the Cemetery as a thoroughfare is prohibited. Business vehicles must not enter the Cemetery except by permission of the commission or its designated representative. Vehicles are forbidden to pass a funeral procession or a lot where services are being held. No vehicle shall exceed a speed of fifteen (15) miles per hour. Horseback riding, motorcycles, mopeds, skate boards and bicycles are prohibited. No parking is allowed in the Cemetery by any vehicles except those doing business in the Cemetery.

The Commission may, from time-to-time, lay out, alter or eliminate roads and paths, change grades or make such rules for the government of the grounds as it may deem requisite and proper to secure and promote the general objects of the Cemetery.

From time-to-time, the Commission may set aside “NO MONUMENT PLOTS” or sections as it may deem best for the beautification of the Cemetery.

To insure proper regulation of the grounds, the grade of all lots has been determined by the Cemetery authorities, and their decision in all cases is final. Markers to bound the limit of each lot are furnished by the Cemetery and are set flush with the surface of the ground.

All workmen in any capacity within the confines of the Cemetery, whether as masons, stone-cutters, erectors, gardeners, or helpers are subject to the direction and control of the Commission, or their designated representative.

BURIALS

A lot may be used as a place of burial for the human dead and for no other reason or purpose.

More than one interment in one grave is prohibited, except in the case of an infant child with an adult, or two children under five years-of-age. Cremated remains may be buried in any grave already occupied, space permitting.

All funerals while within the grounds shall be subject to directions of the Commission or their designated representative.

When instructions regarding the location of a grave or a lot cannot be obtained or are indefinite, or when for any other reason the grave cannot be opened where specified, the Commission or their designated representative may, at his discretion, open it in such a location on the lot as he deems best and proper, so that the funeral may not be delayed.

All interments in private lots shall be restricted to

members of the family and relatives of the proprietor thereof, unless by permission of the Commission.

No grave shall be opened by any workman, other than those employed by or under the direction of the Commission, or their designated representative.

No order will be issued for interment on any lot against which there are any previous unpaid charges.

Lots are to be paid for before interment takes place unless granted special consent by the Commission. Such consent shall be of no more than thirty days. If unpaid after thirty days, the Commission may re-enter said property and hold the same as of its former estate. The Cemetery Department shall have the right to remove any body to such single grave as it designates and also to remove any memorial that may have been placed on the grave.

The opening and closing of graves must also be paid for in advance.

The only holiday interments allowed will be those falling on a Monday (i.e. in the event of the long holiday weekend when the holiday is celebrated on Monday).

No burial will be allowed on Memorial Day, July 4th, Thanksgiving and Christmas, regardless of the day of the week these holidays should occur.

No Sunday interments will be permitted.

The Cemetery Department must be notified by noon on Friday of a Saturday or Monday burial. Service cannot be guaranteed in the case of later notification.

VETERANS who are residents of the Town of

Shrewsbury or who enter the service as residents of the Town of Shrewsbury, may be buried in the specially designated veterans' plot.

REMOVALS

Except as may be ordered by the Commission, no disinterment or removal of a body will be allowed without a written order from the owner or owners of the lot, or their duly authorized representative. In any event, the approval of the Commission is necessary.

PERPETUAL CARE

Perpetual Care payments provide for the mowing and trimming, by the Cemetery, of the cemetery lawns. Maintenance and repair of markers, monuments, planting and other items on a lot are fully the responsibility of the lot owner.

SHRUBS & FLOWERS/DECORATIONS

The Cemetery reserves to itself the entire control of every tree, shrub, vine or plant growing within its boundaries, including the right of removal without notice when it considers such removal advisable. All persons are forbidden to gather flowers or to break or injure any tree, shrub, vine or plant. The Commission or its designated representative may remove from lots anything objectionable or injurious to the uses and purposes of the Cemetery or contrary to its rules and regulations.

Lot owners shall have the privilege of planting to the extent of two (2) shrubs and one (1) flower bed per lot, and shall be responsible for the maintenance thereof.

Plantings, where permitted, shall be at the owner's expense. All plantings are subject to the approval and supervision of the Commission or its designated representative.

Flower beds may not exceed the length of the monument nor one foot in width, and must be maintained in weed-free condition at all times by the lot owner. Unsightly beds may be removed at any time at the discretion of the Commission or its authorized representative. A fee will be charged for such removal.

Shrubs shall be of the evergreen variety and shall be proportionate in height and girth to the lot and monument. Shrubs may not exceed the height of the monument nor be allowed to grow into neighboring shrubs. Lot owners are responsible for the trimming of new growth on their shrubs so as to maintain a neat appearance. The Cemetery will conduct a periodic shrub inspection, and a penalty fee will be assessed against lots with poorly maintained shrubs. The Cemetery further reserves the right to remove without notice any shrub that is found to be damaged, diseased, wholly or partially dead, over-sized, unsightly or in an unmatched pair.

No settees, urns or iron work shall be placed on any lot without the prior approval of the Commission or its designated representative.

The Cemetery will not be responsible for anything placed or left on the lots by the owners. When work on lots is performed by the owners, they must remove all rubbish and excavated earth to such place as provided for that purpose.

Flowerbeds and decorations shall be allowed only between May 10th and October 1st and between November 15th and April 1st. The Cemetery will remove and dispose

of decorations which remain or are placed upon a lot during the periods of April 1 to May 10 and October 1 to November 15, except that decorations may be temporarily placed on a lot during the period of the Wednesday before Easter through the Wednesday following Easter. Such decorations, unless removed by the lot owner, will be removed and disposed of by the Cemetery.

MONUMENTS

No monuments or other memorial may be brought in the Cemetery, until a sketch or blueprint, showing the design, material, finish size and proposed inscription thereon, is first submitted to the Commission or designated representative for approval. The commission reserves the right to reject any plan or design for a memorial which on account of size, design, inscription, finish or quality of stone is unsuited to the lot on which it is to be placed. Markers and monuments must be of natural stone. No artificial material of any description is permitted. All die stones shall be finished at least on front and back.

Only one central or family memorial is allowed on a family plot, and must be inscribed with the family name of the lot owner-or-record. To avoid the crowding of memorials, the size of a monument is restricted to be in proper proportion with the lot, as follows:

On two grave lots, where monuments are permitted, the maximum length of the monument base shall be three (3) feet. On three grave lots, where permitted, 3 ½ feet; on four grave lots, four feet; on six grave lots, four and one-half feet; on eight or more grave lots, five feet.

Maximum height of monument is not to exceed 38”.

Thickness (front to back) of monument base is not to exceed 16". Thickness of monument is not to exceed 10".

Except in sections specially designated by the Commission, no family memorial above grade line on one, two or three grave lots will be allowed.

Markers shall be flush with grade, of one piece only, and shall not exceed two feet in length on a single grave, nor three feet in length on lots containing two or more graves, nor one foot in width. Raised letters are not allowed. The bottom bed of all bases and markers must be cut level and true.

Excavations and foundations required by lot owners must be done under the supervision of the Commission or designated representative.

All rubbish and other debris must be cleaned up by the people employed at the work site, and the grounds left exactly as they were prior to starting such work.

All work must be done during working hours of the Cemetery, and cease at the close of the working day.

Before a stonecutter or other workman is allowed to cut inscriptions on memorials or do any other work on structures erected within the grounds, it will be necessary to obtain the permission of the Commission, or designated representative.

No work will be set up in the spring until the ground is fully settled and in proper condition.

Foundation orders received after May 1 cannot be guaranteed for Memorial Day. No foundation will be set between May 15 and June 1, nor between November 1 and April 1. Also, no work may be brought to the Cemetery on a Saturday or the day before a holiday

Monument dealers should familiarize themselves with the regulations for they are expected to conform to all rules laid down above.

Special cases may arise in which the literal enforcement of a rule may impose unnecessary hardship. The Commission, therefore, reserves the right, without notice, to make exceptions, suspensions or modifications in any of these rules and regulations when, in its judgment, the same appears advisable; and such temporary exceptions, suspension or modification shall in no way be construed as affecting the general application of such rule.

DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Mountain View Cemetery disclaims all responsibility for loss or damage to any lot, monument, memorial or planting from causes beyond its reasonable control, especially from loss or damage caused by an act of God, the elements, earthquake, war, common enemy, air raid, invasion, insurrection, riot, order of any military or civil authority, thieves, VANDALS, strikers, malicious mischief makers, explosions, unavoidable accidents or any cause, similar or dissimilar, beyond the control of the Cemetery whether the loss or damage be direct or related.

The Commission may, and it hereby expressly reserves the right to at any time or times, adopt new rules and regulations, or amend, alter and/or repeal any rule, regulations and/or article, section, paragraph and/or sentence in these rules and regulations.

CEMETERY COMMISSION

John H. Bowles, Chairman

Patsy Bisceglia

Robert Zecco

Revised October 1994

If you have any questions about a rule please call the Parks & Cemetery Office at 508-841-8503.